

Serial No.: 09/548,322
Atty. Docket No.: 110768.00102

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and foregoing remarks, favorable reconsideration in this application is respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claims 1-43 have been canceled, claims 44-48 and 50-51 have been amended and new claims 52-85 added. Accordingly, claims 44-85 remain pending in the application, including independent claims 44, 46-48, 58, 61, 63, 65, 73, 76, 78, and 80.

The Examiner restricts the invention to groups I-IV. Applicant hereby elects group IV, claims 44-51, without traverse. Applicant also submits new claims 52-53, dependent on the elected claims. It is respectfully submitted that claims 52-53 be examined with elected claims 44-51. Without limitation to the meaning or scope of the claims, Applicant also submits new claims 54-87 directed to the same subject matter as elected claims 44-51. Independent claims 58, 61, 63, and 65 are system claims directed to the same subject matter as elected independent claims 44, 46, 47, and 48, respectively. Independent claims 73, 76, 78, and 80 are article of manufacture claims directed to the same subject matter as elected independent claims 44, 46, 47, and 48, respectively. Applicant respectfully submits that no new subject matter has been submitted, and that the new claims 54-85 should be examined together with elected claims 44-51.

In the event there are any questions relating to this Amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Serial No.: 09/548,322
Atty. Docket No.: 110768.00102

Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (110768.00102). In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and in the event that a separate petition does not accompany this response, Applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

BLANK ROME LLP

By: 

Peter S. Weissman
Reg. No. 40,220

600 New Hampshire Ave., N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20037
Telephone: (202) 944-3000
Atty. Docket No.: 110763.00102
Date: August 13, 2004
PSW:df